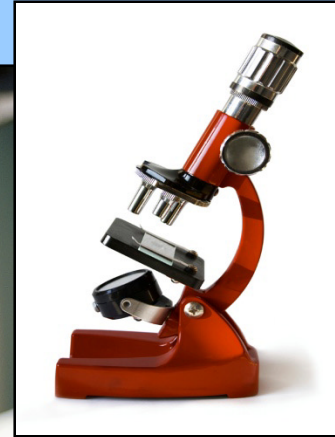
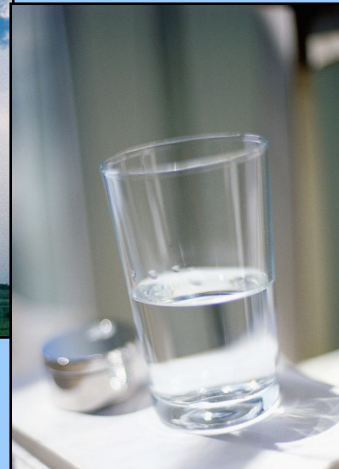


# Public Health Modernization in Iowa

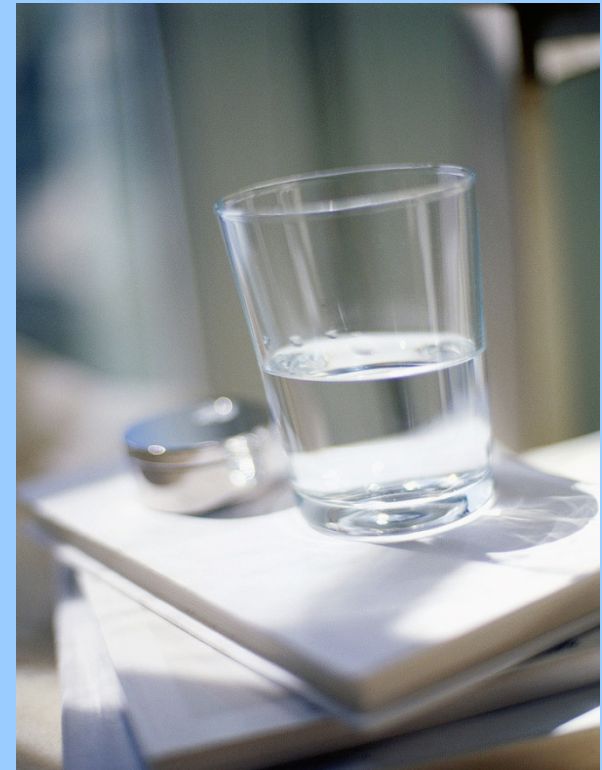


Thomas Newton, Director  
Iowa Department of Public Health

# What is Public Health?

“Activities that society undertakes to assure the conditions in which people can be healthy. This includes organized community efforts to prevent, identify, and counter threats to the health of the public.”

Institute of Medicine, 1988



***Public health plays a role everyday in everyone's life.***

# What does Public Health look like in Iowa?

- 98 county boards of health
- 2 city boards of health  
(Council Bluffs and Ottumwa)
- 1 district board (Siouxland)
- 1 state board of health



# What does Public Health look like in Iowa?

- Shared service responsibilities among state and local governments and nongovernmental partners
- Local agencies provide the majority of direct services
- The state primarily provides funding, technical assistance, training and consultation



# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Challenges Facing Public Health in Iowa

- New or re-emerging diseases
- Aging population
- Under prepared workforce
- Decreased funding
- Increasing immigrant population
- Health disparities
- Varying degrees of public health service delivery
- New role in planning for, responding to, and recovering from disasters



# Call for Modernization of Iowa's Public Health System

- Comments collected from a series of public health meetings held across Iowa in 2003-2004 demonstrated a need for action because.....
  - Iowa's public health system is fragmented and lacks formal integration
  - Inconsistent funding streams (categorical)
  - No benchmarks or standards (state or local)
  - Workforce fatigue and aging workforce
  - Inconsistent service delivery statewide
  - Duplication of services
  - Inadequate training for public health workforce



# Purpose for Modernizing?

- **Collaborative** effort to improve Iowa's Public Health System (over 150 local and state public health partners)

- **Essential Question**



“What should every Iowan reasonably expect from local and state public health?”

- **Goal**

To modernize an integrated sustainable public health system that ensures a basic standard of service delivery to all Iowans.

# Iowa Public Health Standards

- Defines what every Iowan should expect from public health
- Describes the system capacity and capabilities necessary to provide a basic level of public services to all Iowans
- Provides an accountable approach to promoting and protecting the health of Iowans
- Is the architecture for the system and means for assessing how well the governmental public health system is functioning
- Apply to local boards of health, state board of health and the Iowa Department of Public Health



# Organizational Capacity System Components

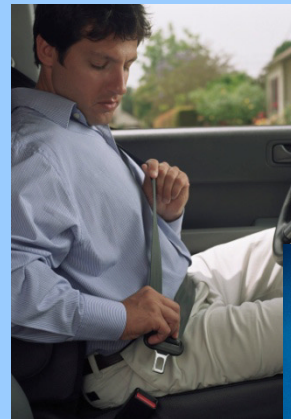
Without these component areas in place the public health system is without a foundation.

- Governance
- Administration
- Workforce
- Communication & Information Technology
- Community Assessment & Planning
- Evaluation



# Public Health Services System Components

- Prevent Epidemics and the Spread of Disease
- Protect Against Environmental Hazards
- Prevent Injuries
- Promote Healthy Behaviors
- Prepare for, Respond to, and Recover from Public Health Emergencies



# National Movement for Public Health Accreditation

- Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) has established a timeline and is working towards established goals
- Announced year of accreditation is 2011
- Initially, accreditation will be voluntary
- In the future, accreditation will be tied to federal funding

# Public Health Modernization Act

- Following development of the Iowa Public Health Standards, an implementation plan was developed through local and state collaboration in November 2007
- Iowa Public Health Modernization Act
- Will increase public health system capacity and provide equitable delivery of public health services

# Modernization Act Overview

- Establishes IDPH as lead agency to administer the act
- Establishes a Public Health Advisory Council – propose standards and recommend voluntary accreditation process for local public health agencies and IDPH
- Establishes a Public Health Evaluation Committee – evaluate the effectiveness of public health service delivery and evaluate effectiveness of the voluntary accreditation program

# Modernization Act Overview

- Authorizes a data collection system on the accreditation process and public health system
- Establishes a Governmental Public Health System Development Fund to assist local boards of health and the department to meet the standards and sustain the system
- Outlines rules to be adopted by the State Board of Health and establishes a civil penalty for any fraudulent claim regarding under the act

# Timeline for Voluntary Accreditation

- IDPH and at least one local public health agency will voluntarily pilot the accreditation process by July 1, 2011
- Voluntary accreditation applications formally accepted January 2, 2012

# Funding



Proposed re-allocation of \$955,074

**\$701,074 to Local Boards of Health**

**\$521,074** population formula

Used for capacity building (e.g. information technology, communication, and planning) *and* enhancing public health service delivery based on community health needs assessments. All geared towards meeting Iowa Public Health Standards and achieving accreditation.

**\$180,000** competitive

To support 6 Local Boards of Health that are prepared to seek voluntary accreditation, goal to support 1 board in each of Iowa's 6 public health regions.



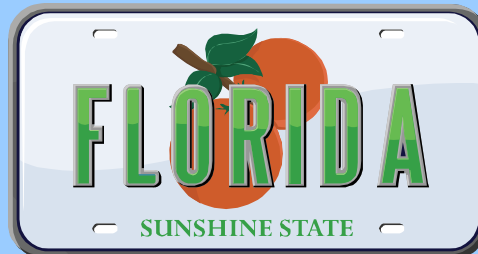
# Funding



**\$150,000 to contract with an third-party accrediting entity** to accredit designated local public health agencies and IDPH.

**\$104,000, for 1 FTE** to provide local public health agencies and LBOHs with technical assistance to achieve accreditation and to develop and share best practices.

We are not alone...  
work in other states



# Why is the act important to Iowans?

- The health of Iowans improves when public health professionals and agencies have the tools and training needed to meet emerging health challenges
- Public health provides the first line of defense in recovering from natural disaster or taking on a disease outbreak
- Ensures a minimal level of public health services are available in every community
- Iowa will be in a strong position to obtain national accreditation in order to continue receiving federal funds

**Thank You!**